

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

### **Claim 1 (Cancelled)**

**Claim 2 (Currently Amended)** The methanol-reforming catalyst according to Claim 13, characterized by containing the intermetallic compound Ni<sub>3</sub>Al and coexistent components, wherein the contents of Ni and Al are respectively 77 to 95% and 5 to 23% with respect to the total element composition in wt% (wt %) including the coexistent components.

**Claim 3 (Currently Amended)** The A methanol-reforming catalyst according to Claim 1 comprising an intermetallic compound Ni<sub>3</sub>Al, characterized by being a powder or granule prepared by machining and mechanically polishing a melt-prepared ingot or in an atomization process.

### **Claim 4 (Cancelled)**

**Claim 5 (Currently Amended)** The A methanol-reforming catalyst according to Claim 1 comprising an intermetallic compound Ni<sub>3</sub>Al, wherein carbon nanofibers containing metal fine particles are deposited on the a surface thereof of the Ni<sub>3</sub>Al.

**Claim 6 (Original)** The methanol-reforming catalyst according to Claim 5, wherein the metal fine particles are fine particles of at least one of the metals of Ni and Ni<sub>3</sub>Al.

### **Claims 7 and 8 (Cancelled)**

**Claim 9 (Currently Amended)** The methanol-reforming method according to Claim 821, wherein the methanol or the liquid mixture of methanol and water is brought into contact with the catalyst that is previously subjected to a hydrogen reduction treatment.

**Claims 10 and 11 (Cancelled)**

**Claim 12 (Currently Amended)** The methanol-reforming catalyst according to Claim 2, wherein carbon nanofibers containing metal fine particles are deposited on ~~the~~a surface ~~thereo~~fof the Ni<sub>3</sub>Al.

**Claim 13 (Currently Amended)** The methanol-reforming catalyst according to Claim 3, wherein carbon nanofibers containing metal fine particles are deposited on ~~the~~a surface ~~thereo~~fof the Ni<sub>3</sub>Al.

**Claim 14 (Cancelled)**

**Claim 15 (Previously Presented)** The methanol-reforming catalyst according to Claim 2, characterized by being alkali or acid treated.

**Claim 16 (Previously Presented)** The methanol-reforming catalyst according to Claim 3, characterized by being alkali or acid treated.

**Claim 17 (Cancelled)**

**Claim 18 (Previously Presented)** The methanol-reforming catalyst according to Claim 5, characterized by being alkali or acid treated.

**Claim 19 (Previously Presented)** The methanol-reforming catalyst according to Claim 6, characterized by being alkali or acid treated.

**Claim 20 (Currently Amended)** A methanol-reforming method ~~by using the catalyst~~

~~according to Claim 2, characterized in that~~which comprises producing hydrogen is produced by  
bringing methanol or a liquid mixture of methanol and water into contact with the catalyst of  
Claim 2.

**Claim 21 (Currently Amended)** A methanol-reforming method ~~by using the catalyst~~  
~~according to Claim 3, characterized in that~~which comprises producing hydrogen is produced by  
bringing methanol or a liquid mixture of methanol and water into contact with the catalyst of  
Claim 3.

**Claim 22 (Cancelled)**

**Claim 23 (Currently Amended)** A methanol-reforming method ~~by using the catalyst~~  
~~according to Claim 5, characterized in that~~which comprises producing hydrogen is produced by  
bringing methanol or a liquid mixture of methanol and water into contact with the catalyst of  
Claim 5.

**Claim 24 (Currently Amended)** A methanol-reforming method ~~by using the catalyst~~  
~~according to Claim 6, characterized in that~~which comprises producing hydrogen is produced by  
bringing methanol or a liquid mixture of methanol and water into contact with the catalyst of  
Claim 6.

**Claim 25 (Cancelled)**

**Claim 26 (New)** The methanol-reforming catalyst according to Claim 5, wherein the  
contents of Ni and Al are respectively 77 to 95% and 5 to 23% with respect to the total element  
composition in wt%.

**Claim 27 (New)** The methanol-reforming method according to Claim 23, wherein the

methanol or the liquid mixture of methanol and water is brought into contact with the catalyst that is previously subjected to a hydrogen reduction treatment.